

Swoop Troupe and Greenlight Theatre Co.'s announces an OPEN CASTING CALL for
its upcoming production of...

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee

Music and lyrics by William Finn and a book by Rachel Sheinkin

Directed by Leland Locke

About the Musical:

25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee is an eclectic group of six middle-school students compete in the Putnam County Spelling Bee, each hoping to prove themselves through their mastery of words. As the competition progresses, the contestants reveal the personal struggles, family pressures, insecurities, and dreams that motivate them to succeed. Guided by former champion Rona Lisa Peretti, eccentric Vice Principal Douglas Panch, and comfort counselor Mitch Mahoney, the bee becomes much more than a spelling competition—it becomes a heartfelt and hilarious journey of self-discovery.

Content Warning:

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee contains mature humor and themes that may not be suitable for all audiences, including references to puberty and adolescent development, sexual humor and innuendo, mild profanity, crude language, family conflict, divorce, parental absence, anxiety, loneliness, and the pressures of competition. The production also features audience participation and direct interaction with audience members, as well as depictions of awkward and embarrassing adolescent experiences.

While the show is ultimately a heartfelt and uplifting coming-of-age story about self-discovery, friendship, and acceptance, it is generally recommended for audiences ages 13 and older due to its mature comedic content and themes.

Audition Registration:

Make sure to fill out a registration form for this audition!

- Registration closes on the day of auditions

Please note: if you have scheduling conflicts OR if you are unable to attend the auditions but would like to be considered, please contact Director Leland Locke at lelandlockeproductions@gmail.com

In-Person Auditions:

Monday, July 13th

- Check in will begin at 6:00pm and close at 6:30pm.
- Vocal auditions begins promptly at 6:30pm and will end at 8:30pm
- Movement Call begins promptly at 8:30pm and will end at 9:30 pm

What to Prepare:

- Bring a Headshot and Resume (A selfie is acceptable in lieu of a professional headshot)
- The audition will consist of **vocal auditions**, director selected **cold readings**, and **dance call**
- Please prepare 32 bars of a musical theatre song in the style of the show or a song from the show.
- Please send your instrumental tracks to bianca.j.voelkel@gmail.com

- Please be prepared to learn a short combination for dance call after vocal auditions have concluded. We suggest bringing a change of clothes! The floor is carpeted so keep that in mind for what to wear during the dance call.
- Please bring **all** known conflicts from **July 2026 - September 2026**

Where: 8021 PHILIPS HWY, SUITE 10 JACKSONVILLE, FL 32256

Production Dates:

Friday, September 4th at 7:00 pm

Saturday, September 5th at 7:00 pm

Sunday, September 6th at 1:00 pm

Friday, September 11th at 7:00 pm

Saturday, September 12th at 7:00 pm

Sunday, September 13th at 1:00 pm

** Full rehearsal attendance is required from July 27th – September 3rd ** Rehearsals will likely be Monday – Friday (Subject to change).

Production and Rehearsal Times and Locations: Rehearsals will be held at an offsite location that will be announced on a later date. Rehearsals usually will be held from 6:30-9:30pm before tech week and then we will start at 6:30-10pm. Final dress (9/3) is just like show with call time being 5:30pm and show starting at 7pm.

Available Roles:

Rona Lisa Peretti / Olive's Mom (Female, 30-50): Former Putnam County Spelling Bee champion and current moderator. Warm, charismatic, and deeply invested in the competition. Serves as the show's narrator and guide, balancing sincerity with humor. Doubles as Olive's Mom, who appears in Olive's imagination. Strong singer with excellent comedic timing. Vocal range: B3 - F5

Vice Principal Douglas Panch (Male, 35-60): The vice principal and official pronouncer of the spelling bee. Recently reinstated after an unusual leave of absence, Panch is eccentric, awkward, and prone to bizarre tangents. Requires strong improvisational skills and comic delivery. Vocal range: (Non-singing)

Mitch Mahoney / Dan Schwartz / Olive's Dad (Male, 20-50): The official Comfort Counselor, assigned to console eliminated contestants with a juice box and a hug. Tough exterior with a surprisingly kind heart. Doubles as Dan Schwartz, one of Logainne's fathers, and Olive's Dad, who appears through phone messages and fantasy sequences. Vocal range: E2 - F4

Chip Tolentino / Jesus Christ (Male, 18-25, playing 12-13): Returning spelling bee champion. Athletic, confident, and highly competitive, but hilariously derailed by the onset of puberty. Requires strong comedic instincts and physical comedy. Doubles as Jesus Christ in one of Chip's fantasies. Vocal range: C3 - B4

Logainne Schwartzandgrubenierre / Leaf's Mom (Female, 18-25, playing 10-12): The youngest contestant in the bee. Intellectually gifted, politically outspoken, and fiercely competitive. Struggles under the pressure of living up to her parents' expectations. Doubles as Leaf's Mom. Strong comic actress with excellent diction. Vocal range: A3 - F5

Leaf Coneybear / Carl Grubenierre (Male, 18-25, playing 12-13): An eccentric, homeschooled boy who unexpectedly qualifies for the spelling bee. Energetic, imaginative, and delightfully odd. Despite his goofy demeanor, he possesses remarkable spelling ability. Doubles as Carl Grubenierre, one of Logainne's fathers. Vocal range: A2 - A4

William Barfée / Leaf's Dad (Male, 18-30, playing 12-13): A socially awkward contestant with a chronic sinus condition and a unique spelling technique known as the "Magic Foot." Intelligent, stubborn, and secretly vulnerable. Develops a sweet connection with Olive. Doubles as Leaf's Dad. Vocal range: A2 - F4

Marcy Park (Female, 18-25, playing 12-13): An overachieving perfectionist who excels at everything she attempts. Confident and polished on the surface, but secretly overwhelmed by the pressure to be perfect. Requires strong singing and movement abilities. Vocal range: G3 - E5

Olive Ostrovsky (Female, 18-25, playing 11-12): A sweet, lonely girl whose love of words provides comfort amid family struggles. Imaginative, earnest, and emotionally rich, Olive serves as the emotional heart of the show. Requires strong acting and storytelling ability. Vocal range: B3 - F5

Age Requirement: Applicants must be 17 years of age or older.

Questions?

Contact Director Leland Locke at lelandlockeproductions@gmail.com